

AN ANALYSIS OF OSA-NPIC PROCEDURES FOR  
EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND ACTIONS  
TAKEN FOR MISSION C025C

NSA review(s) completed.

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27 January 1965

AN ANALYSIS OF OSA-NPIC PROCEDURES FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION  
AND ACTIONS TAKEN FOR MISSION C025C

1. OSA, having the responsibility for successfully carrying out U-2 missions over various parts of the world, relies on all sources of information which indicate a possible threat to the safety of the mission. Experience has shown that unlike other operations involving the use of the aircraft, that there are fewer items to be considered as a threat to the U-2 because of the aircraft's very high operating altitude. Of special interest in the past have been hostile intercept aircraft, including the associated destruction systems and the threat of the surface-to-air missile.

2. Intelligence information relative to the intercept aircraft which might react in a hostile manner toward the U-2 is obtained from many sources; however, the primary office we look to for aircraft performance estimates has been OSI/DDS&T. In addition to performance estimates, OSI maintains an up-to-date Order of Battle for high performance aircraft; particularly those which might pose a threat to the U-2. Daily contact

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with OSI is maintained by OSA to insure that OSA has the latest estimates and aircraft Order of Battle. Relations between OSI and OSA have been excellent.

3. The primary source of surface-to-air missile (SAM) Order of Battle has been NPIC, and this should be obvious since photographic interpretation of particularly KH materials has been the greatest source of SAM Order of Battle by a large margin.

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However, by far the most prolific and positive source of SAM Order of Battle comes from NPIC.

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4. Realizing that NPIC is the main source of SAM Order of Battle, OSA has made it a precedent to maintain close liaison with NPIC at all times on new SAM Order of Battle information. There should be no doubt that NPIC realizes its role in support of IDEALIST Operations, and though the exact role which NPIC plays in the U-2 operations is not spelled out in so many words, a precedent has been established over the years which is irrefutable.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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5. Since targets for [REDACTED] coverage are widely scattered throughout China and normally stand in excess of 300, it is understandable that NPIC cannot search, within a short time, every square mile of KH photography for SAM sites. However, the primary targets for coverage with the U-2 are relatively few and it is these targets which are of critical interest to the Intelligence Community. Lan Chou, Pao Tou, Peiping, the MTR at Cheng Tzu, the aircraft plants at Shenyang (Mukden) and Cheng Tu in the Szechwan Basin, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] OSA had occasion in the past to request NPIC to prepare mosaic maps of such places as Lop Nor, the MTR, KoKo Nor and Lan Chou for the purpose of accurate flight planning by OSA Operations. Some of these requests have been in writing and others by phone, depending on the situation and amount of time involved. Where the planning of a mission is underway and the operation imminent a phone call to NPIC or an oral request at one of the pre-launch briefings is made to the NPIC representative. This request is made generally by the Intelligence Division, the IDEALIST Division, or D/FA. OSA does not ask for a guarantee from NPIC that there are no SAM sites at a particular location, but that the area has

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been searched and reported on. Such was the case for



6. The programming Officers for the KH CORONA vehicle were contacted by cable in December of 1963 (See Tab-A), requesting coverage of an area of Red China and specifically certain targets of interest to OSA, including Pao Tou. The requirement for a "50 mile radius" search of Pao Tou became a standing requirement both to the Camera Programmers and NPIC.

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The same phraseology is contained in Tab-B, Attachment 2, concerning the search within 50NM of Pao Tou complex. In addition to the above, Colonel Ledford, in a memorandum to the DDS&T, refers to a letter (Tab-B, Attachment 1) from the DDI to the DCI (copy to NPIC), which acknowledges the requirement for OSA support concerning new or suspect SAM sites. Tab-B also addresses the problem of communications between NPIC and OSA, in that at least on several occasions no response was forthcoming to OSA requests for information, or response was considered inadequate.

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7. Tab-C is a memorandum recorded for the record by [redacted] D/FA/OSA, last December. In a discussion with the NPIC Operations Officer, [redacted] was definitely left with the impression that NPIC could not always detect SAM sites in Red China.

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8. We now have a comprehensive review of primary targets in Red China to determine if any heretofore undiscovered SAM sites are found. This review includes [redacted]

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[redacted] the Chicom SAM training area first discovered by a U-2 mission [redacted]

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[redacted] the Missile Test Range at Shuang Cheng Tzu,  
the site where SA-2 research and development probably takes  
place.

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